



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
P.O. Box 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

17 OCT 2006

ROTHWELL, FIGG, ERNST & MANBECK, P.C.
1425 K STREET, N.W.
SUITE 800
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

In re Application of CHALMERS	:	
U.S. Application No.: 10/594,218	:	
PCT Application No.: PCT/US99/05453	:	
Int. Filing Date: 12 March 1999	:	DECISION
Priority Date Claimed: 01 April 1998	:	
Attorney Docket No.: 2362-101	:	
For: METHOD OF PROCESSING SULFUR-	:	
CONTAINING MATERIALS. . .	:	

This is in response to applicant's "Petition for Revival of an International Application for Patent Designating the U.S. Abandoned Unintentionally Under 37 CFR 1.137(b)" filed 26 September 2006.

BACKGROUND

On 12 March 1999, applicant filed international application PCT/US99/05453, which claimed priority of an earlier United States application filed 01 April 1998. A Demand for international preliminary examination, in which the United States was elected, was filed prior to the expiration of nineteen months from the priority date. Accordingly, the thirty-month period for paying the basic national fee in the United States expired on 01 October 2000.

International application PCT/US99/05453 became abandoned as to the United States for failure to timely pay the basic national fee.

On 26 September 2006, applicant filed the present petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b).

DISCUSSION

Under 37 CFR 1.137(b), a petition requesting that an application be revived on the grounds of unintentional abandonment must be accompanied by: (1) the required reply unless previously filed, (2) the petition fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(m), (3) a statement that the entire

delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition was unintentional, and (4) a terminal disclaimer if the application was filed before 08 June 1995.

With regard to item (1), applicant has provided the required basic national fee under 35 U.S.C. 371.

With regard to item (2), applicant has provided the required petition fee.

With regard to item (3), applicant has provided the required statement.

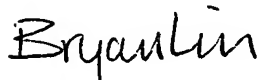
The above-identified application has been abandoned for an extended period of time. The USPTO is relying on petitioner's duty of candor and good faith and accepting applicant's statement that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional. See Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure 62 Fed. Reg. at 53160 and 53718, 1203 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office at 88 and 103 (responses to comments 64 and 109) (applicant obligated under 37 CFR 10.18 to inquire into the underlying facts and circumstances when providing the statement required by 37 CFR 1.137(b) to the United States Patent and Trademark Office.)

With regard to item (4), because the international application was filed after 08 June 1995, no terminal disclaimer is required.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons above, the petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) is GRANTED.

This application is being forwarded to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) for further processing in accordance with this decision, including preparation and mailing of a Notification of Missing Requirements under 35 U.S.C. 371 (Form PCT/DO/EO/905) indicating that an oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.497 must be filed.



Bryan Lin
PCT Legal Examiner
PCT Legal Office

Telephone: 571-272-3303
Facsimile: 571-273-0459